

The invention claimed is:

Claims 1- 17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (currently amended): A rotary cutting apparatus comprising

a plurality of blades, each blade fixed to the end of a drive shaft in substantially perpendicular orientation to the shaft, each shaft projecting downward from a power means at an angle tilted longitudinally between 1 and 90 degrees from vertical,

a grass guide,

a chassis ~~to which said rotary cutting apparatus is affixed~~, and

a means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface.

Claim 19 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said grass guide bends and constrains grass to be cut by the blades.

Claim 20 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said angle is adjustably selected from the group consisting of some or all degrees between 1 and 90 degrees from vertical.

Claim 21 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said angle is fixed at a single degree between 1 and 90 from vertical.

Claim 22 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface comprises

a handle to facilitate manual propulsion of the apparatus over the cutting surface and

a plurality of wheels.

Claim 23 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means comprises a single electric motor.

Claim 24 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means comprises a plurality of small electric motors.

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Claim 25 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means consists of an internal combustion engine.

Claim 26 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means consists of a hybrid power source comprising

an internal combustion engine and

one or more electric motors.

Claim 27 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor or motors is powered by a battery or batteries.

Claim 28 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 24, wherein said motor or motors is powered by a battery or batteries.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor or motors is powered by

a combination of a battery or batteries and

a solar cell.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 24, wherein said motor or motors is powered by

a combination of a battery or batteries and

a solar cell.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 23, wherein said motor or motors is powered by a fuel cell.

Claim 32 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 24, wherein said motor or motors is powered by a fuel cell.

Claim 33 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said cutting blades are replaceable.

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Claim 34 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said power means is replaceable.

Claim 35 (currently amended): The rotary cutting apparatus of claim 18, wherein said means for effecting movement of the apparatus over a cutting surface is ~~robotic~~ self-guiding.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The rotary cutting apparatus of Claim 18, wherein the height of said cutting blades relative to the cutting surface is adjustable.